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18 May 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI

SUBJECT : Comments on State Department (S/AF)
Memorandum: "Bilateral Talks Concerning
US-USSR Cooperation in Outer Space"

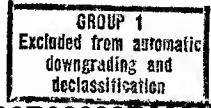
1. This is a covering memorandum forwarding three papers as a basis for discussion by the NSC Standing Group; it contains no recommendations for action. The three papers are:

a. A 15 May memorandum from the Secretary of State to the President reporting on the progress of bilateral talks to date and noting the agreement to resume discussions when the UN Outer Space Subcommittee reconvenes at the end of May;

b. A preliminary summary report by Dr. Dryden on the 27-30 March talks with the Soviets, giving further details; and

c. The detailed record of the March talks.

2. From the Agency viewpoint, the key issue is of course the Soviet proposal for a ban on all military reconnaissance activities, brought up in the penultimate paragraph of Mr. Rusk's memorandum, on page 2 of Dr. Dryden's preliminary summary report, and on page 9 of the detailed record. (These passages are sidelines.) Soviet failure to raise the subject in subsequent conversations last week

| SECRET

SECRET
275 PIA-R

raises some question as to whether the Soviets will in fact make an issue of the military reconnaissance question at this time, as Mr. Rusk's memorandum concludes, but it remains an obvious possibility. There is also the possibility that neutralist members of the UN Outer Space Committee may propose a declaration against "non-peaceful uses" of outer space.

3. These papers have been reviewed by Dr. Seoville, who strongly recommends that you raise with the Standing Group the question of instructions for US representatives on the subject of military reconnaissance vehicles. He considers it highly important that an official US position be worked out well in advance with full Agency participation and not thrown together at the last minute. He also urges that this question be kept apart from the general question of disarmament.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE

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Chief, Estimates Staff
Office of National Estimates

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
		18 May 1962
TO: Dr. Herbert Scoville		
ROOM NO. 3E14	BUILDING	
REMARKS: Thanks again for your comments. Sorry there wasn't time to check this out with you before sending it in.		
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